## **Claims**

1. Use of mandelic acid alkylamides of general formula (I)

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wherein

X

represents a single bond or an oxygen atom

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and

R<sup>1</sup> represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms

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and

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R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an O-R<sup>5</sup> group

and

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup>, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue

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or

 $R^3$  and  $R^4$  together represent a  $-CR^6R^7$ - group

and R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup>, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl residues or lower alkenyl residues,

5 and the various stereoisomers or mixtures thereof as flavour compounds.

2. Use of

2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,

2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,

2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,

2-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,

2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,

2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,

2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,

2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,

2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,

2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,

and

2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(7-methyl-1-octyl)acetamide

and the various stereoisomers or mixtures thereof

as flavour compounds.

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3. Use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein flavour compound means pungent compound or flavour compound with a heat-generating effect.

4. Use according to at least one of claims 1 to 3 in preparations for use in nutrition or consumed for pleasure.

- 5. Use according to at least one of claims 1 to 3 in preparations for use in oral hygiene.
- 6. Preparations for use in nutrition, oral hygiene or consumed for pleasure containing mandelic acid alkylamides of general formula (I)

wherein

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X represents a single bond or an oxygen atom

and

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R<sup>1</sup> represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms

and

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R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an O-R<sup>5</sup> group

and

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R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup>, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> together represent a –CR<sup>6</sup>R<sup>7</sup>- group

and

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R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup>, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl residues or lower alkenyl residues,

and the various stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.

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- 7. Preparations according to claim 6, containing at least one other pungent-tasting or heat-generating substance.
- 8. Preparations according to claim 6, containing at least one pungent-tasting plant extract.
  - 9. Preparations according to claim 6, containing at least one other pungent-tasting or heat-generating substance and at least one pungent-tasting plant extract.

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- 10. Preparations according to at least one of claims 6 to 9 in the form of semi-finished products.
- Preparations according to at least one of claims 6 to 10 in the form of odour,
  flavour and taste compositions and seasoning mixes.
  - 12. Mandelic acid alkylamides of general formula (I)

$$R^{4} \xrightarrow{X} OH \xrightarrow{H} N \xrightarrow{R^{1}} O$$
 (I)

wherein

5 R<sup>1</sup> represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms and

R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom,

and

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either

15 X represents a single bond,

R<sup>3</sup> a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue and

R<sup>4</sup> hydrogen

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

25 R<sup>3</sup> hydrogen and

R<sup>4</sup> a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

5 R<sup>3</sup> a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue and

R<sup>4</sup> hydrogen

and the various stereoisomers or mixtures thereof with the exception that X represents an oxygen atom, R<sup>1</sup> 1-pentyl, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> hydrogen and R<sup>4</sup> methyl.

13. 2-(4-Hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,

2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,

2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,

2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,

2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,

2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,

2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,

and

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2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(7-methyl-1-octyl)acetamide.

25 14. Production of the compounds according to claim 12 or 13, characterised in that a mandelic acid of general formula II

$$R^4 \xrightarrow{X} OH$$
 $R^3O \xrightarrow{R^2} OH$ 
(II)

wherein

X, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> have the meaning given in claim 12,

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and

Y represents an activated nucleofuge,

or derivatives, the OH groups of which are protected with protective groups, is reacted with an alkylamine of general formula (IIIa)

$$H_2N$$
  $R^1$  (IIIa)

or an alkylammonium salt of general formula (IIIb)

wherein R<sup>1</sup> has the meaning given above and A<sup>-</sup> denotes an inorganic or organic anion,

optionally in the presence of solvents and/or auxiliary bases, and the protective groups of the OH groups are optionally split off.

Use of the mandelic acid alkylamides according to claims 1 to 2 in cosmetic or dermatological preparations.

16. Cosmetic or dermatological preparations containing mandelic acid alkylamides of general formula (I)

$$R^4 \xrightarrow{X} QH \xrightarrow{H} N$$

$$R^1$$

$$R^3Q \xrightarrow{R^2} Q$$

$$(I)$$

5

wherein

X represents a single bond or an oxygen atom

10

R<sup>1</sup> represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms

15

and

and

R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an O-R<sup>5</sup> group

20 and

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup>, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue

25 or

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> together represent a -CR<sup>6</sup>R<sup>7</sup>- group

and

R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup>, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl residues or lower alkenyl residues,

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and the various stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.